

Minnesota MUFON Journal

Issue #103 Sept./Oct. 2003

Directors Report

ENCOUNTER WITH STRANGE BEINGS NEAR DULUTH, MN, AUG. 7, 1979

By William I. McNeff, MN MUFON State Dir.

The witness was referred to me by her cousin, a former missionary, who is a friend of mine and of my wife. Our friend vouched for the honesty of the witness. Our friend and her husband told me that the details of her account never varied over the years. I can confirm the consistency between my interview of the witness and her journal account of 1979. The witness is retired.

At the time of the encounter, the witness ("Liz") was about 50 years old and employed by a well-known company. A group of her coworkers were planning to hold an evening bridal shower for another coworker at their manager's home at Caribou Lake. The witness' house had needed painting so she and her husband had taken a week of vacation time to work on the project. The weather during the day was "perfect" and after hours of work she picked up a coworker "Ruth" and they drove to the shower at Caribou Lake. Liz recorded the details in a journal the next day. She wrote "...the shower was very nice. Sue (the bride to be) was so cute and excited. I love coffee but because it was a warm summer night most of us drank lemon aid."

Liz and Ruth left the party at about 9:10 PM. She continues: "It was dark enough by this time that I drove with the lights on from the lake to the black top Munger Shaw road, stopped at the crossroad by the Caribou Lake school. We both noticed three figures zig-zagging over the center line straight ahead – in my judgement maybe ½ mile. Ruth said, "What in the world is going on down there?" I said "It looks like three little ones on bikes but they'd better move cause here I come." Stepping on the gas I switched the low to high beams and they did not get off the road.

As we came upon them, one [and then apparently the other] just zoomed (did not walk) off to the left – across the ditch and as I switched to the low beam I had one dead center with the right front headlight. We both kept saying "My God what is it?" A huge head, no hair, no ears, huge eyes set in deep hollows, wrinkles or folds but no protruding nose, a small slit for a mouth." (When interviewed, the witness said, "They looked so odd, almost a luminous grey. I could not see clothes. They had arms; I didn't notice the fingers. The arms were in proportion to the rest of the body...He had a huge head at least 18 to 20 inches across, with huge eyes 2-1/2 to 3 inches.") The dash lights went out as soon as I stopped and with no streetlights (being out in the country) our eyes were glued on the colorless clay-looking creature with black like eyes larger than a chicken egg. Ruth was scrambling to



Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., Sept. 13th

1:30-5pm

&

Sat., Oct. 11th

1:30-5pm

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Service Center
400 - 10th St. NW
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PARK FREE!

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See map on back cover

**(Note: The building has no
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find the door lock in the dark, with both of us babbling in fear. We knew we could not hit the "being" and the thought of backing up never occurred to us. After about 8 to 10 minutes, I decided to put the car in gear and cramp the wheels to the left and see if the movement would alert "it" into moving. This was to no avail. All I could think of was hopefully another car would come from either direction, no luck. At this point I told my friend we should very slowly move ahead & try to clear it. She said, "Yes, lets get out of here!"

"We managed to bypass it but in doing so, it naturally stood closer to her side of the car and when it got along side of the right lower windshield, she couldn't stand it. She yelled and quickly moved almost on top of me.

"When I was sure we had it cleared I took off fast and being so upset I took a wrong turn down the old road in total darkness. I knew immediately the mistake as we could see the cars going by on the main highway. In haste I ground a few gears to find reverse and got to the stop sign by the highway. Now a car had approached the stop coming from the same area we had left and took off (to their right). We looked at them carefully, hoping it was some of our friends from the shower." But they were not, and there are no other known Minnesota reports for that night.

They continued on their way home, discussing the encounter "furiously". They could not come up with an answer as to what this being was, but decided it was not a human, not an animal, not a trick or masked being. They thought of the possibility of "an outer space being" but agreed they didn't know anything about them and had doubted their existence. Ruth was very happy to see her home and saying, "I'll talk to you at work", hurriedly entered the house. Liz found out later that Ruth's husband ridiculed her story.

Liz also was most anxious to get home and scrambled fearfully into the house. There she found that after a hot long day of painting, her husband had showered and gone to bed. She writes, "My niece had dropped in to visit and needed a ride home (approx. 3 miles). I couldn't convince my husband to get up and go with me so I agreed to take her. I couldn't think of anything except this horrible experience and related the whole thing to Jean (my niece) and in turn she was almost afraid to get out of the car and go to her apartment."

"When I came home to a quiet house and prepared for bed, I fell apart. I cried and begged my husband to wake up and listen to me. I had to tell him and it couldn't wait till tomorrow as he requested. He did listen but could offer no comforting solution as to what we had seen. He did say 'Why didn't you hit it and throw it in the trunk and it could have been analyzed.'"

She told her children the next day about the encounter. Also, she and Ruth both told the office crew, who suggested they report it to the authorities. They, however, did not; they had a fear of reporting it more widely and possibly being laughed at or considered mentally ill.

The witness writes, "It was the most terrifying experience either one of us had gone thru." When on occasion she meets her co-witness, they mention the event but do not discuss it. Her co-witness does not want to think about the event and refused my request for an interview. She did not rule this out completely for some time in the future, however.

The dash lights, which had gone off when they stopped for the creature, remained inoperative. The witness' husband was a mechanic, but he couldn't make the dash lights work again. They took it to another mechanic's garage (Johnson's Auto Electric) and they couldn't fix the lights either. The cause of the failure is not known; presumably, if it had been discovered, the light system could have been repaired. Why only the dash lights failed, and none of the rest of the electrical system, is an interesting question. No craft, which might have contained mechanisms to cause the dash light failure, was observed. The fact of the irreparable dash lights adds to the women's credibility. The detail of the creatures "floating", "zigzagging", and "zooming" rather than walking or running, while seeming fantastic to persons unfamiliar with accounts of ET's, is a fairly common occurrence in accounts of the beings associated with UFOs. This investigator can construct no null hypotheses that can account for the facts, other than that of simultaneous hallucinations and coincidental failure of the dash lights. The probability of this is obviously infinitesimal.

The prime witness, although she had gone semi-public at the time of the event, understandably does not want any additional publicity at this time. She is in her 70s and experiencing medical problems.

Both women were and are married and had responsible jobs. They reported their experience, in spite of perceived risks to their reputations, to coworkers and relatives. The prime witness must be rated high in credibility and in accuracy of recollection. The beings she reported seeing must be considered to be definitely unidentified.

Estimating The Height And Size Of The Creatures

The creatures were short. They were initially mistaken for children and called "little ones", meaning children, by the prime witness. "Their heads were right above the headlights." Measurements on my 1999 Honda give 36" from the pavement to the bottom of the driver's side window and a little over 48" from the pavement to the top of the window. Assuming the Buick Century had fairly similar measurements, it is estimated that the tops of the headlights on the car that the witness drove were about 32" above the pavement (see picture). The reaction of the passenger when the car pulled alongside the being indicates that the face of the being was visible in the side window. All of this taken together indicates that the creatures were a little over four feet tall, which is the height that I have drawn the figures. The witness said the head was at least 18" to 20" wide. Therefore, the head is drawn about 19" wide. Based on the witness' sketch it would be about 21" from tip of chin to top of head. It is possible that the head was large enough that it seemed to the witness even larger than it was. The head seems quite out of proportion to the rest of the body, but similar sketches and descriptions come to mind. The witness said the arms were proportional to the rest of the body, that is, roughly human proportions.

The overall impression is of a creature that is quite "cerebral".

The Duluth encounter was the apparent beginning of a wave of important UFO reports that occurred during the rest of 1979. They included sightings of a hovering domed disc by a large number of motorists near the intersection of I694 and I35W; a similar object, possibly the same one, near the intersection of I694 and Silver Lake Road in the northern Twin Cities suburb of New Brighton, MN; the encounter of Deputy Val Johnson with a light which cracked the headlights and windshield and bent two antennas at right angles on his squad car; and the encounter of a friend of mine along with a friend of his with an object hovering about 100 feet above I90 between Rochester and Austin, MN.

What could be the meaning of the Duluth encounter and other encounters such as that of Father Gill and his students in New Guinea and Joseph Simonton of Eagle River, Wisconsin? On the face of it, the message seems to be "We are here. We have no hostile intentions. But we have advanced technology that allows us to hover a craft almost silently, and knock out dashboard lights (and complete electrical systems according to many accounts)." Then, if we look at the evidence for many of the abductions, the message seems to be "We have some purposes in these abductions and these visits but we aren't going to tell you what it is." There are exceptions in which verbal messages are recalled by the experiencer. These include messages about taking care of the earth, about humanity's tendencies toward inhumanity to others, and the need for spiritual development. Most of us would agree that these are reasonable messages. To me it seems that the famous Star Trek "Prime Directive", "Do not interfere," may be in effect, but in a slightly modified form.

The whole subject is still a mystery wrapped up in an enigma.

Report on Budd Hopkins' presentation at the 2002 MUFON Symposium by Richard Moss, MN MUFON ASD

Budd Hopkins' presentation at the 2002 MUFON Symposium in Rochester NY was titled The Abduction Phenomenon - Where We Are Now. As is always the case, it was one of the highlights of the Symposium. I suspect that even new members in MUFON quickly hear of him and have some idea of the importance of his work.

Budd's idea for this presentation originated with a question asked to him by a young woman at a UFO conference. It was, "Mr. Hopkins, I've been told that the UFO abduction phenomenon is no longer considered an important issue in UFO research and that other issues have taken its place. Is that true?"

He thus began the Symposium presentation by reviewing the Betty and Barney Hill case. They had seen gray creatures on board a craft as opposed to the "little green men" of prevailing sci-fi culture. The psychiatrist who worked with the Hills, Dr. Benjamin Simon, came up with the ridiculous, if not condescending, conclusion that they had had a shared fantasy in which they merged their two skin colors to imagine a blended crew of gray beings.

Hopkins reminded the audience that a needle was used to penetrate Betty's abdomen. She was "told" that it was a pregnancy test. Years later a similar procedure called amniocentesis was routinely used on pregnant women. But, we do not really know if the alien procedure removed amniotic fluid, ova, or something else from Betty Hill.

Debunkers have often said that abductions which followed the pattern used on the Hills were copy-cat stories. The problem is that women in many countries have undergone the same procedures and could not have read *The Interrupted Journey* book which was written in English.

Omitted from the book for reasons of "taste" is the fact that sperm was extracted from Barney. This omission acted as a sort of control because later male accounts of the same procedure could not have been the result of copy-cat replication.

Budd first wrote about hybridization in his second book, *Intruders*. Even scientists within the UFO community had a fit about this aspect of abductions. To them, mixing alien sperm with human ova was impossible. But, abductees said that aliens were managing to create hybrids although sometimes with less than 100% results. Many offspring appeared pale, weak, and dying. It is not known if these offspring were true hybrids or the result of some advanced form of transgenics.

It is noteworthy that critics of the possibility of the aliens' reproductive agenda tried to shoot down Hopkins' data on the basis of scientific theories as they were in 1987. Our present new era of transgenics has caused many 1987-style truths to bite the dust. He exemplified the progress in genetic research with the example of a gene from a salmon folded into the genetic makeup of a tomato in order to make it more tolerable to cold temperatures. And a gene from a jellyfish inserted into a rabbit sometimes causes it to glow in the dark.

The above illustrates that abductee testimony, though attacked in earlier years, has stood the test of time and proven to be a valuable component of the search for truth. In Hopkins' words, the careful investigation and judicious weighing of personal testimony have always given UFO investigators the edge in long-term battles with the fixed theoretical positions of fundamentalist science.

Hopkins closed by stating that the alien presence is not here to warn us to take better care of the planet. If the aliens' main purpose was to turn humans into environmentalists, they have failed dismally. Everything in the case material points to physical rather than ideological experiences which involve paralysis and quasi-medical procedures rather than sermonettes about global warming.

The abduction phenomenon is not a quasi-military operation being carried out by human soldiers. He suggests that the notion that every abductee is the target of evil human operatives spending billions of taxpayer dollars is one of the looniest ideas one can imagine.

But, it does accomplish three things. First, it make UFO researchers seem to be a collection of paranoid airheads. Second, it inspires suspicion and hatred of one's fellow man. And third, it turns our attention away from the real issue.

Since the time of Calvin Coolidge, abductees have described small non-human creatures having an advanced technology.

The abduction phenomenon did not cease decades ago due to the success of the Star Wars program, an idea advanced by the late Col. Philip Corso.

He believes that new advances in the sciences actually support the plausibility of the abduction phenomenon.

As always, this is a highly condensed version of a MUFON Symposium presentation. The topics discussed above contained much more supporting material than appears in this abbreviated summary, some of which is written verbatim and some of which is paraphrased.

Hopkins also had much to say about doctors' reluctance to discuss such things as fetal disappearance, why rejection of eyewitness testimony is a major obstacle to the search for truth, and the difference between a witness's escalation of hypothesis as opposed to a story designed to cast glory upon the witness and render him special.

Any reader wishing to read the text of the entire presentation, plus those of all speakers at the MUFON Symposium, should order a copy of the MUFON 2002 International UFO Symposium

Proceedings by sending \$27.50 to MUFON, PO Box 369, Morrison CO 80465-0369.

NASA's policy to avoid FOIA by Federation of American Scientists

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/othergov/nasafoia89.html>

Note: This internal NASA memo from November 1989 was disclosed by Rep. Howard Wolpe in 1992. It was repudiated by NASA Administrator Richard Truly immediately thereafter.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ANTICIPATING REQUESTS UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. section 552) requires that copies of all documents maintained in the course of conducting Government business must be provided to requesters unless the documents fall within certain narrow exceptions. As a result, the safest and most practical course of action is to prepare all documents in a manner that assumes that they will ultimately be publicly disclosed. Some general suggestions:

At the conclusion of meetings or at the end of the day review your notes and consider whether you really need to retain them. If you do, take time to rewrite them in such a way as to minimize any adverse impact should they be publicly disclosed. Then destroy your old notes.

Avoid retaining drafts of documents. Each draft constitutes a separate document potentially subject to disclosure.

Use yellow stick-ons or other similar attachable tabs to annotate personal copies of documents you wish to retain. Annotations on a document make the annotated copy a separate document potentially subject to disclosure. If retained, yellow stick-ons would also be subject to FOIA disclosure. However since there is no obligation under FOIA to provide documents in any particular order or relationship to each other, furnishing out of context copies of stick-ons can render any information released significantly less meaningful. In this regard, printing rather than writing in script also generally makes it harder to assign authorship (and context) to a particular note or document.

Wherever possible try to record only factual information and avoid prematurely documenting your opinion. If you must document your opinion

take care to at least reference in the document (i.e. on the same page) all appropriate qualifications. This can help make out of context quotation at least a little more difficult.

Attempt to make each document (i.e. page) stand alone. Avoid cross references to other documents that can lend context to a document and thereby enhance its informational value should it ultimately be disclosed.

There are basically only three exemptions to FOIA that will have any real applicability to Government entities engaged in conducting scientific research: the national security exemption, the deliberative process exemption and the confidential business information exemption. FOIA exempts from disclosure documents properly classified pursuant to an executive order. This exemption is intended to protect information that must be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. FOIA also exempts from disclosure inter-agency and intra-agency memoranda and correspondence that are pre-decisional and deliberative in nature. This exemption is intended to protect full and frank discussion within the Government in order to assure proper Government action by exempting recommendations, opinions and advice from mandatory disclosure. Finally, FOIA exempts from disclosure documents containing commercial information provided to the Government on a confidential basis. This exemption is intended to preserve the Government's ability to obtain necessary financial and otherwise commercially sensitive information from those business entities with which it deals. Some suggestions for enhancing the utility of these exemptions:

Make sure that any documents to be protected as classified have in fact been processed and handled in accordance with all procedural requirements of the participating department or agency with the strongest connection to the national defense.

Clearly identify and draft documents as recommendations rather than decisions.

If you must document a decision, make sure that it is consistent with the decision that you ultimately intend to make public. Do not cross reference any pre-decisional documents or prior recommendations in a decisional document unless you intend to specifically adopt them as part of your decision.

At the first indication of any potential controversy with outside parties involve your legal counsel. Not only can he or she provide specific advice on FOIA, but counsel's participation in the preparation of particular documents may serve as an additional basis for asserting that they are exempt from FOIA based on a claim of attorney work product privilege.

Require commercial entities with which you deal to clearly mark appropriate documents as containing confidential information.

ET 'alive and on Mars'

**By Leigh Dayton and Steven Swinford
news.com.au, 15Jul03**

<http://www.news.com.au/common/printpage/0,6093,6753999,00.html>

NASA found evidence of life on Mars in 1976, but dismissed the findings as impossible, two British astronomers claim.

Now, evidence from missions such as the Mars Global Surveyor suggests that the early observation was correct after all.

For instance, newly released high-resolution images of the planet's surface show a valley which might have been originally formed by liquid water, the stuff of life.

According to Nigel Henbest and Heather Couper, independent astronomy writers and broadcasters, one of three biology experiments conducted on Mars by the two Viking landers obtained clear evidence that there were living microbes on the red planet.

The experimental instrument, designed by engineer Gilbert Levin, head of the Biospherics company in the US, exposed samples of the Martian soil to an Earth-like solution of water and nutrients known to exist in meteorites and interstellar clouds.

"It was the kind of solution that bacteria on Earth would love to slurp," Mr. Henbest, in Sydney for the International Astronomical Union's 24th general assembly, said.

"It was cleverly designed so that if there was no life, then nothing would happen, but if there were microbes, they would take in the solution and produce gas." He said the gas was tagged with a radioactive label that could be detected by the experiment's built-in Geiger detector.

Also speaking at the assembly, astronomer Seth Shostak predicted that scientists will find ET within 25 years.

Dr. Shostak, with the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence Institute (SETI) claimed that a \$US10 billion (\$15 billion) array of 350 specially designed radio telescopes under construction in California will crank up the search for extraterrestrial radio signals.

"It's like going from walking to jet speed, like finding a needle in a haystack with a big shovel instead of a small spoon," he said.

In their new book Mars: the inside story of the red planet Mr. Henbest and Dr. Couper reveal that Dr. Levin's instrument tested three soil samples at differing temperatures. When tested at 46C, the sample emitted gas, indicating the presence of bacteria-like organisms.

"Independent people say that if this were the only experiment on Viking the (scientists) would have been persuaded that there is evidence for life on Mars," Mr. Henbest said.

The problem was that neither of the other two experiments found telltale signs of life. NASA dismissed Dr Levin's findings.

CIA Falls On Its UFO-Secrecy Sword by Larry W. Bryant

[LWB Note: So, UFO-guys and UFO-gals, the UFO-meisters at the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency are reverting to their pre-1953 UFO- intelligence zeitgeist - you know: that in which they diligently collect, analyze, and exploit hard-core UFO-encounter information without any public/congressional oversight, without justifying their expenditure of funds for this function, and without (apparently) caring to realize that this reversion betrays their heretofore public protestation that the Agency no longer has any investigative/evaluative role in official UFO research. "Having it both ways" seems to be the Agency's motto these days. Perhaps even more important: does their reversion mean they're also resuming production of dossiers on selected UFO researchers? And have they heard the last from LWB on this issue? Stay tuned.]

TO: Larry W. Bryant
REFERENCE: F-2003-01199
FROM: Kathryn I Dyer, CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator
DATE: 24 July 2003

This acknowledges receipt of your 27 June 2003 letter requesting records under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Your letter states that "according to recent press accounts in Turkey, certain CIA personnel, during the period 1999-2003, officially have sought (and acquired) from the Turkish Intelligence Agency (MIT) various hard-core cases of UFO encounters reported throughout that country."

Specifically, your request is for:

"a copy of all-CIA-generated and CIA-received records pertaining to this transmittal of UFO-related MIT information, along with any and all other records revealing such CIA UFO-related solicitations directed to, coordinated with, and fulfilled by other intelligence services/operations conducted by foreign countries...."

For identification purposes we have assigned your request the number referenced above. Please refer to this number in future correspondence.

The CIA can neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to your request. Such information - unless it has been officially acknowledged -- would be classified for reasons of national security under Executive Order 12958. The fact of the existence or nonexistence of such records would also relate directly to information concerning intelligence sources and methods. The Director of Central Intelligence has the responsibility and authority to protect such information from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with Section 103(c)(6) of the National Security Act of 1947 and Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949. Therefore, your request is denied under FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3); an explanation of these exemptions is enclosed.

The CIA official responsible for this determination is Kathryn I Dyer, Information and Privacy Coordinator. By this action we are neither confirming nor denying the existence or nonexistence of such records. You may appeal this decision by addressing your appeal to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the

date of this letter. Should you choose to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal.

**Field Investigator Update:
July/Aug. 2003 by Craig R. Lang
MN MUFON FI Coordinator**

This month's Filer's Files e-newsletter continues to highlight what I see as the Minnesota mystery. While many sightings are listed in this publication, this month saw only one new report coming in to Minnesota MUFON. This again poses the mystery: Is Minnesota MUFON simply not hearing about sightings that do occur? Or are the skies over Minnesota simply less active than other locations in the nation?

The one sighting which was reported was by two pre-teenagers, of a large triangle seen in southern Minnesota. This was reported via the Worldwide UFO database, and routed to one of our investigators in the southern part of the state. To date, she has not yet been able to follow up with the witnesses, so this sighting remains unsubstantiated.

While new sightings continue to be sparse, work continues on older sightings and on the study of close encounters. In the last few weeks, I have continued to be contacted by close encounter experiencers. Some were through MUFON and some directly via the internet. In a rather typical case, one experiencer who I interviewed last week, described events which had many of the classic outward indications: paranormal fallout, several scoop marks and several instances of missing time or sleep paralysis. However, as she began to examine her encounters more closely (both from conscious recall, and later in hypnotic trance), they began to look far less like typical "small gray" encounters. Instead, they seemed to involve a host of other beings which were distinctly non-gray-like. Cases like these continue to remind me of the variety and strangeness that the close-encounter phenomenon presents to us. What is happening here? I believe that we have only scratched the surface of this mystery.

Another continuing investigation, in which new developments have occurred, was described in an earlier FI Update. In this case a family observed from their home, a large object hovering over south Minneapolis. This occurred sometime in the early 1970s (1973 or 1974). During the last couple of months, we have been able to interview another of

the family members, who had a clear memory of the sighting.

In this sighting, the primary witness, who was a child at the time, observed (along with her family) a large orange glowing object hovering in the skies to their south. The object was stationary, or slowly descending. Both witnesses described it as lenticular/saucer shaped. The primary witness observed it for only a few minutes, while the second witness we interviewed observed it for considerably longer. Her description resulted in a very detailed picture of the sighting – and the apparent dynamics of the object itself. The object was situated such that it should have been clearly visible. We would very much like to learn of any others who may have seen such an object – in 1973 or 1974 – over south Minneapolis.

Another event of considerable interest was a skywatch, held late one Saturday night in May. This particular event occurred about an hour north of Minneapolis, in the St. Croix Valley. These events often tend to be more social than UFOlogical, but this one had an air of seriousness about it. Several of us brought scientific equipment (Geiger counter, TriField EM Meter, Spotting telescope, etc.). Several people who attended also were self-described psychics/sensitives, and more than one indicated that they could sense some form presence accompanying us.

During the night as the chill and damp began to set in, some sky-watchers decided to pack it in, while others stayed until well into the night. Those who stayed were rewarded with some interesting (though non-UFOlogical) sights such as a spectacular moon-rise, plus quite a few satellites and shooting stars. Well after midnight, with an hours' drive still ahead of us, we elected to take down our equipment and head back to the cities. We decided that we hadn't observed any controlled aerial phenomena, save for a number of hungry mosquitoes.

Before leaving, several of us took a number of pictures – mostly with digital cameras. One group photo, a "glory shot" of those intrepid sky-watchers who held out to the end, showed a few interesting extras – several orbs had apparently elected to join us in the portrait. One orb was in front of the group, one off to our right, and one above us. All were about half the size of a football and all seemed to be about two to three feet away from us.

I don't know what orbs are. Are they simply dust spots close to the lens? Or are they something more? Whatever they are, it is interesting that they chose this moment to show themselves. So perhaps during our skywatch we were indeed accompanied by something more than mosquitoes.

Investigators Wanted:

For those wishing to become a field investigator themselves, classes are conducted as sufficient interest is indicated. We try to hold classes approximately three times per year, and hope to hold the next one later this summer, or into the fall. We plan to hold a beginning class, as well as a refresher class for those who want to beef up their skills at UFO fieldwork. If you are interested, and feel that you have the necessary time, energy, and objectivity to be a UFO investigator, please contact the author. If you have not already done so, you also will need to join MUFON as a field investigator trainee and purchase the MUFON field investigators manual.

In addition, anyone reading this column may have had, or might have in the future, a sighting of their own – or perhaps know someone who has. If you have any further updates on the events in this column, or know of information on other sightings or encounters, please contact Minnesota MUFON. (We can be reached through our website: <http://www.mnmufon.org>, or contact Craig Lang: (phone: 763-560-1532, website: www.craiglang.com, e-mail: clang@craiglang.com). Also, please stay tuned to this column in each newsletter as we discuss more local and regional sighting cases.

MUFON IS ON THE AIRWAVES

Starting September 3, 2003, as a regular segment of the "WakeUP USA- A UFO Study show, hosted by Jim Hickman on the Stardust Radio Network a MUFON HOUR will be aired every Wednesday from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, CST. "The MUFON Hour" will be an exciting with Jim Hickman a MUFON Research Specialist for Media Operations and a UFO investigator. The first guest speaker will be MUFON International Director, John Schuessler. If your radio does not carry the show you may listen at: <http://www.stardustradio.com>.

Jim's "Hickman Report" website is at: <http://www.thehickmanreport.com>. You can phone the show at: 319-648-3101.

**Issues Swamp Gas Journal Now
Available Online
By Chris Rutkowski**

After receiving numerous requests, I have located all the files in their various directories and have made back issues of The Swamp Gas Journal available online at: <http://www.geocities.com/thecynicalview>

For those who may not remember, The Swamp Gas Journal was a ufozine published in hard copy beginning in 1978 and continued until the late 1990s. Predating word processors in common use today, most issues were not in electronic format. However, a dozen or so were rescued from floppy discs and have been uploaded to my website.

In addition, a brand-new Special Issue No. 6 of the Swamp Gas Journal (Summer 2003) has been produced, and is available with all the rest in this directory.

And you thought you didn't have anything else to read this summer!

**Minnesota MUFON Sponsors 2 Lecture
Events:**

Title: White House UFOs: 60 Years

Speaker: Grant Cameron

Description: Presentation about U.S. Presidents from Roosevelt through George W. Bush. Conversations with pilots, politicians, appointees, the press, and entertainers give insights into their knowledge and handling of the UFO presence.

When: Thursday September 11 at 7:30 PM

Where: New Brighton Family Service Center, Room 220, 400 - 10th St. NW, New Brighton, MN (located 1/4-mile S.W. of Hwy 694 and 35W.)

Admittance: \$10 at the door only.

The other lecturer will be Debra Lindemann, (<http://www.cfree.org>) on Oct. 11 also at the New Brighton Family Service Center.

See: <http://www.intergate.com/~jhenry/event.htm> for more details as they become available.

Charles Fort quotes:

Science is more than an inquiry:

That it is a pseudo-construction, or a quasi-organization: that it is an attempt to break away and locally establish harmony, stability, equilibrium, consistency, entity--

Dimmest of all possibilities--that it may succeed.
(Damned, p. 14)

Explanation:

The fate of all explanation is to close one door only to have another fly wide open.
(Talents, p. 30)

Minnesota MUFON

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MN MUFON WEB PAGE

<http://www.mnmufon.org> - Joel Henry, Webmaster

**MUFONET: 7.237mhz Sat. at 7:00am CST,
Bob Shultz, Net Control**

National MUFON Hotline

To report UFO news, sightings, etc. call 1-800-836-2166

Go to: www.mnmufon.org/mmj.htm for back issues of the Minnesota MUFON Journal.

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